

REMARKS

This Reply is in response to the October 19, 2006 Final Office Action ("Office Action") issued in connection with the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I.       Summary of the Office Action

Claims 84-103 are pending in this application.

Claims 84-90, 93-115, 118-140, 143-165 and 168-183 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gagnon et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,522,342 ("Gagnon").

Claims 91-92, 116-117, 141-142, and 166-167 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gagnon in view of Hendricks et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,798,785.

II.       Interview Summary and Reply to Office Action

On January 18, 2007, Examiner Annan Q. Shang ("the Examiner") and the undersigned patent agent ("applicants' representative") conducted a telephonic interview on the merits of the above-identified patent application. Applicants and applicants' representative wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the interview.

Generally, the Examiner and applicants' representative discussed the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejections of independent claims 84, 109, 134 and 159. During the telephonic interview, applicants' representative proposed amendments to the independent claims, which applicants hereby submits.

The Examiner acknowledged that the amendments to independent claims 84, 109, 134 and 159, would make the claims patentable over the rejections of the claims, which are stated in the Office Action. In particular, the Examiner acknowledged that it would be difficult to apply Gagnon to the independent claims, at least because Gagnon does not show or suggest "media group options [that] indicate media available to the user without indicating the content of the media, without indicating the title of the media, and without indicating the source of the media."

Accordingly, applicants hereby amend independent claims 84, 109, 134 and 159 as proposed during the telephonic interview by applicants' representative. The amendments are fully supported and justified by applicants' specification and drawings. No new subject matter has been added by any of the claim amendments.

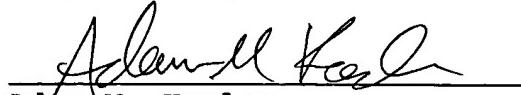
Claims 85-108, 110-133, 135-158 and 160-183 depend on amended claims 84, 109, 134 and 159, respectively, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable over Gagnon. Therefore, dependent claims 85-108, 110-133, 135-158 and 160-183 are allowable over Gagnon at least because they depend on allowable independent claims.

Because, applicants have amended the independent claims to include features that the Examiner indicated were allowable over Gagnon, applicants submit that the claims are in allowable form, rendering a response to the rejections of the claims prior to amendments unnecessary. Nevertheless, applicants reserve the right to contest each of the rejections of the claims prior to the amendments.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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